

Speech and Communication

The ability to communicate has a bearing on how well a person accesses all areas of their MND journey. The MDT should assess, manage and review speech and communication including the person's response to treatment during regular assessments – the SLT is a core member of the MDT team.



Possible Solutions

Low Tech

- Alphabet boards.
- Word Boards.
- Picture boards.

High Tech

- PC or tablet-based voice output communication aids.
- Voice Banking (this is not in the NICE guideline).
- Liaise with, or refer to, a specialised NHS AAC hub if complex high technology AAC equipment is needed or is likely to be needed.
- Involve other healthcare professionals, e.g. occupational therapists, to ensure that AAC equipment is integrated with other assistive technologies, such as environmental control systems and personal computers or tablets.

Ongoing support

- Provide ongoing support and training for the person with MND, and their family members and/or carers, in the use of AAC equipment and other communication strategies.
- MDT regularly monitor the person's communication needs and abilities as MND progresses (and review their ability to use AAC equipment).
- Reassess and liaise with a specialised NHS AAC hub if needed.